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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 09812.0082-00000

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
Kazuhiko OKAMATSU ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Application No.: 10/580,043 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: May 19, 2006 )  
For: DISK DRIVE APPARATUS AND ) Confirmation No.: 7566  
METHOD, RECORDING MEDIUM, )  
AND PROGRAM (AS AMENDED) )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Computer generated English translations of Japanese Patent Publication Nos. 10-289452 and 11-066579 are attached. A search report from the Australian Patent Office in a corresponding application setting forth the relevance thereof is also attached.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 11, 2007

By:



Michael R. Kelly  
Reg. No. 33,921

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/580,043
Filing Date	May 19, 2006
First Named Inventor	Okamatsu
Art Unit	Unassigned
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	9812.0082-00000

Sheet	1	of	1
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**U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code (if known)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation
		Country Code Number Kind Code (if known)				
		JP 10-289452	10/27/1998	Kuroiwa		Yes
		JP 11-066579	3/9/1999	Okamatsu		Yes

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.